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Certificates for Mobile and New Orleans have been issued from May 1.

Mortuary report of Habana for the week ended May 7, 1904.

Disease.	Number of deaths.
Tuberculosis	16
Bronchitis	2
Scarlet fever	1
Tetanus	1
Meningitis	11
Pernicious fever	1
Cancer	4
Pneumonia	2

Total deaths from all causes, 103.

Report from Matanzas—Enteric fever, diphtheria, and scarlet fever.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Nuñez reports, May 9, as follows:

During the week ended May 7, 1904, bills of health were issued to 8 vessels leaving for ports in the United States.

One case of diphtheria, 2 cases of enteric fever, and 6 of scarlatina, of which 5 occurred in this city and one in the rural town of Alacranes, within this district, have been reported during the past week. I have been able to obtain the following information as regards the origin of the present cases of scarlet fever and those mentioned in my previous report. A negro girl, resident of this city, whilst on a recent trip to Habana, became infected and developed the disease here, in a mild form, on her return.

A local practitioner was called in to see the patient, but failed to make a proper diagnosis in view of the impossibility to detect the eruption on the skin, although the throat symptoms were present. Believing that he had to deal only with a catarrhal pharyngitis of a benign form he paid very little attention to it and lost sight of the patient until he was summoned again to see another case in the same house, also in a negro child, a brother of the first patient. By that time the first case was in the stage of desquamation, thus enabling him to determine the nature of the disease. Meanwhile the children in the neighborhood had communication with the first patient without any restriction whatever, as no danger was apprehended. The mother of the two patients, a cook by occupation, working at a private house centrally located, continued going to her work as usual and conveyed the infection to the house of her employers.

Here again a repetition of the first instance happened. The family physician confounded the rash of scarlet fever with that of urticaria until it became too late to avert the spread of the disease. Since the cases were reported to the health authorities very energetic measures are being carried out to control the epidemic as with the first cases that appeared in this city some months ago, and the probability is that they will meet with a similar success. The source of the infection of the case of scarlet fever reported at Alacranes has not yet been ascertained.

The mortuary statistics of this city for the first ten days of the present month will be forwarded with my next report.